

From the Office of Sharon Bulova
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Bulova Byline

The Monthly Newsletter from Chairman Bulova

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going on in Fairfax
County?



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Did you know?

According to Money
Magazine, Fairfax
County has two
municipalities ranked

October 2012

Greetings,

Acorns



Acorns. Everywhere I went last weekend the small talk centered on the overabundance of acorns this year. A lot of them, and big ones, falling like rain onto lawns and park grounds. There is a name for this kind of bumper crop of acorns. According to Accuweather.com the phenomenon is called a **Mast Year**.

Farmers traditionally have used nut production and caterpillar furriness to predict upcoming snowy weather. Sometimes they are right on. Sometimes they are not. Scrolling through articles about this, I noted a lot of reports during the fall of 2010 about an overly generous crop of acorns. 2010!?

I headed into my office at the Government Center, dove into my archives of Bylines and there it was. The lead article in my March 2010 Bulova Byline reads: *The media has dubbed it Snowmagedon. Sometimes Snowpocalypse. Whatever the label, the snow events Fairfax County experienced in February made history.*

Maybe we just have a lot of acorns this year and it means nothing. But it sure wouldn't hurt to remind ourselves of what we need to do to keep ourselves and our families safe this winter in case of bad weather. See inside this Byline for a refresher on emergency preparedness. Topping my list is a generous stock of batteries and a wind-up radio. After that - food and bottled water to last long

in the top 20 best places to live in the nation.

Extended Library Hours

Check out your local library's new Fall hours.

[Locations and Hours](#)

enough for streets to be cleared. In the case of Snowmageddon that was as long as a week.

Another "just-in-case" tip - early in-person voting and absentee voting is now available for registered voters. Legal reasons for voting early include a long commute, or a planned trip or activity that could make it difficult to vote in person on Election Day. See inside this Byline for more information on the November 6 election, including Referendum questions.

Capital One Expansion

Last Tuesday our Board, in a unanimous vote, approved Capital One's proposal to redevelop their property at Tysons Corner. This is the first major rezoning following the Georgelas demonstration project, Spring Hill, which is under construction.



The Capital One expansion and redevelopment project is a great step forward for Tysons. The expansion not only adheres to the vision of Tysons as a strong economic and residential center, but also achieves the goals of the Tysons Corner Comprehensive Plan by addressing transportation needs and providing community amenities.

The expansion project includes over \$63 million in transportation improvements, a pedestrian-oriented design, and park spaces. When completed, the project will frame the existing Capital One 14-story headquarters building with a mix of high-rise office, residential, and hotel buildings within easy walking distance of Tysons East Metrorail (3.1 million square feet of office space, four high-rise residential buildings with as many as 1,200 units, a hotel and 100,000 square feet of restaurants and retail). I welcome this beautiful new redevelopment to Fairfax County.

Sisters



Fairfax County has three Sisters: [Songpa-gu](#), Seoul, Korea; [Harbin](#), China; and [Kecioren](#) (pronounced "Kay-chur-en"), Ankara, Turkey. Last week a delegation from our Turkish Sister Jurisdiction visited Fairfax County to discuss opportunities for economic development and for cultural and educational exchanges. The visit included a welcome breakfast at George Mason University, a tour of the waste-to-

energy plant in Lorton and lunch at Mount Vernon. Before returning home Tuesday evening, Mayor Mustafa AK of Kecioren and his delegation were given a warm welcome by our Board, followed by a briefing from the County's Economic Development Authority.

I am a believer in these sorts of international partnerships. With a population that is growing in diversity, it is important to have an understanding and appreciation for the history and culture of our residents.

No Fairfax County tax dollars are spent on expenses associated with these international programs. I would like to thank Barry Biggar of Visit Fairfax, our tourism arm which is funded through hotel taxes, for making this delegation feel so welcome.

Sincerely,

Sharon Bulova

Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors



Emergency Preparedness

It is always a good idea to know what to do during an emergency. Please take a moment to review the following four points and browse the [Fairfax County emergency preparedness page](#). If you have questions about emergency preparedness, contact the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management at 703-324-2362, TTY 711.

Assemble a Kit: Emergency supply kits can be purchased from numerous sources, including the American Red Cross, or you can put one together from basic supplies you already own. Just remember the basics for survival - fresh water, food, and warmth - when putting together your kit.

Be Prepared: Your family may be at different locations when an emergency occurs so you will need to a plan to contact each family member. You'll also need a plan for home, school and the workplace. Use the Make A Plan Web site to help.

Be Informed: Access to information is critical before, during and after an emergency. Be prepared by being informed.

Make a Plan: Help yourself and your community prepare for and respond to emergencies. There are many ways to get involved throughout the year.

Office of Emergency Management: 571-350-1000, TTY 711

Snow and Ice Removal: 1-800-FOR-ROAD (367-7623), TTY 711

Fairfax County Government Emergency Information Line: 703-817-7771, TTY 711

For hyperthermia information in English or in Spanish, contact the **NIA Information Center:** 1-800-222-2225

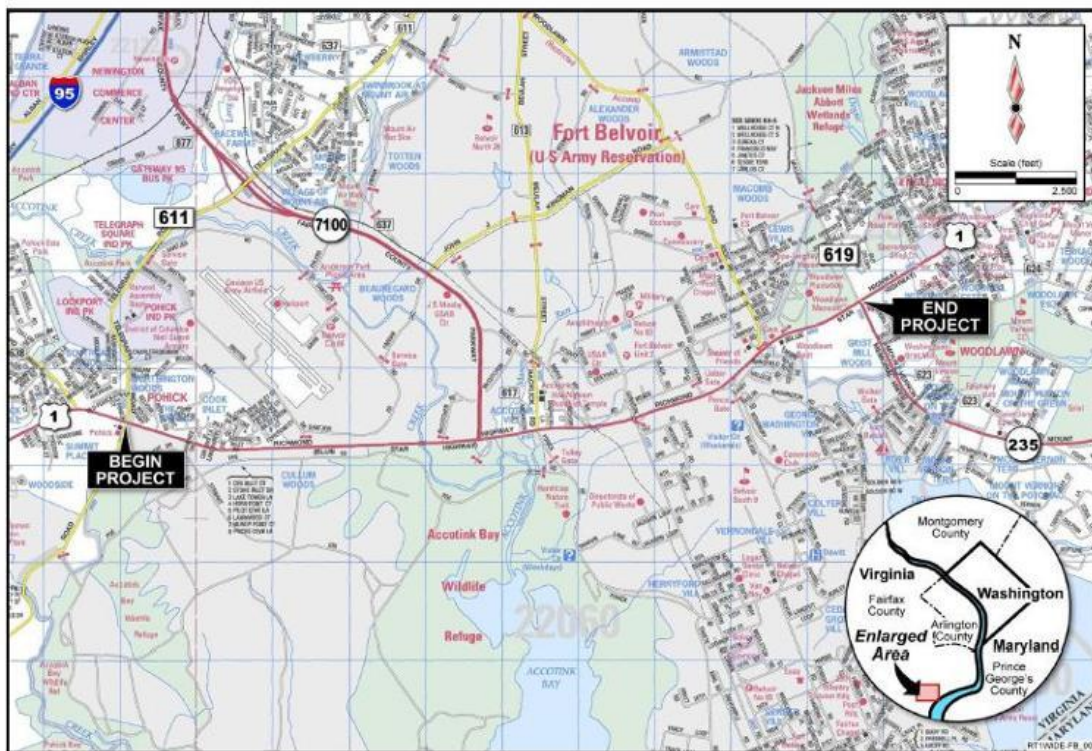
Fairfax County Community Interfaith Coordination Office: 703-324-3453

*The **Red Cross** continues to encourage people to call 9-1-1 as the best first action when in need of emergency.

Widening of U.S. Route 1



I am pleased to be able to follow up on my July 2011 Byline to report that U.S. Route 1 will be widened between the intersection of Telegraph Road north to the intersection of the new Mulligan Road and Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway. The Board of Supervisors endorsed a final design at our September 11th meeting. The project is made possible thanks to a \$180 million grant which Congressman Jim Moran secured to improve patient access to the new Fort Belvoir Community Hospital.



This project has been a County priority for a long time and several County-funded studies helped make the grant proposal successful. The final design includes widening the existing roadway between Telegraph Road and Belvoir Road and shifting the road between Belvoir Road and Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway to a path that can better accommodate the wider roadway. This alignment will meet several transportation goals, including providing capacity

for current and forecasted traffic demand, addressing conflicts between through traffic and turning vehicles and adding new, safe, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, while minimizing impacts on historical structures in the corridor. Construction on this project is expected to start in the summer of 2013 and be completed by 2016.

Learn to Dig Like an Archaeologist at Sully Historic Site

Sully Historic Site
3650 Historic Sully Way
Chantilly, VA 20151
703-437-1794



Sully Historic Site is celebrating Archaeology Month with a special program for children ages 8 to 12 years old on Saturday, October 6, 2012. Holding the Past in the Present is a hands-on program for kids who want to learn how to dig like an archaeologist.

Participants will learn archaeology methods and techniques similar to the ones used by historians to reconstruct Sully's past from artifacts. This behind-the-scenes look at history takes places in a large outdoor sandbox. Kids should dress to get dirty.

Holding the Past in the Present is a one-hour program offered at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. The cost is \$6 per Fairfax County resident and \$8 for visitors from elsewhere. Registration is available online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully/calendar.htm>.

For more information, please call 703-437-1794.

Sully Historic Site is listed on the National Register for Historic Places and is accredited by the American Association of Museums. Guided tours highlight the early 19th century life of Northern Virginia's first representative to Congress, Richard Bland Lee, tenant farmers, and enslaved African Americans. The story of Sully is being preserved through the new, interactive East Wing Exhibit. Sully Historic Site is located at 3650 Historic Sully Way in Chantilly, Va.

Virginia Chamber Orchestra's Opening Concert

The Virginia Chamber Orchestra and Music Director Emil de Cou present "Musical Gems from France," on Sunday, October 14, 2012 at 4:00 P.M., at the Ernst Community Cultural Center at Northern Virginia Community College - Annandale Campus (8333 Little River Turnpike Annandale, VA 22003).

Tickets available at door: adults \$25; seniors \$20. On-line discount: adults/seniors \$20. Students admitted free. Group rates available.

French Guest Conductor Highlights "Musical Gems from France"

The Virginia Chamber Orchestra and Music Director Emil de Cou will present solo harpist Susan Robinson and Guest Conductor David Grandis will perform Debussy's *Danses Sacrée et Profane* in a program of "Musical Gems from France," on Sunday, October 14th at 4 pm. The venue will be the Ernst Community Cultural Center at 8333 Little River Turnpike, on the Annandale Campus of the Northern Virginia Community College.

Parking is free. Additional information is available at www.virginiachamberorchestra.org.

Five Things You Need To Know for the Nov. 6 Election

Since the last presidential election in 2008, there is new information and deadlines that you should be aware of to make sure your vote counts on Tuesday, Nov. 6.

1. Every registered voter in Virginia is receiving a new voter registration card by early October. You must update your voter registration if you have changed your address or name, or you may not be able to vote. Make sure you read your new card and note the location of your polling place, which may have changed due to redistricting. The deadline to register to vote or to make changes on your registration is Oct. 15. **If you did not receive a new card or have any questions, contact the Office of Elections before Oct. 15. Call 703-222-0776 (TTY 711).**

2. Do you have a long commute, or will you be out of town on Election Day? Consider absentee voting. For information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee.htm, or call 703-222-0776.

3. You will need to present ID in order to vote. Please note that you do not need a photo ID. Acceptable forms of ID include the following:

- Virginia voter registration card
- Valid Virginia driver's license
- Military ID
- Any Federal, Virginia state or local government-issued ID
- Employer issued photo ID card
- Concealed handgun permit
- Valid student ID issued by any institution of higher education located in the Commonwealth of Virginia
- Current utility bill, bank statement, government check or paycheck indicating the name and address of the voter
- Social Security card (Does not satisfy special federal ID requirements for first time voters - for more information, call the Office of Elections at 703-222-0776)

4. Smartphone users can access registration information, poll location and driving directions

as well as other helpful information on the Fairfax County Government mobile app. Download the free mobile app by searching Fairfax County Government at the Apple App Store or Android Market, or online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/mobile. Once you download (or update) the Fairfax County Government app, look for the vote icon.

5. The polls are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day. You may want to avoid the morning and afternoon rush hours when many people are stopping to vote before or after work. You should also become familiar with the ballot before you go to the poll.

You can find a sample ballot at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections.

George Mason ranked #1 Up-and-coming School in the Nation

George Mason University was recently ranked #1 on the U.S. News 2013 Up-and-Comers List! The list was developed from a survey of college administrators on what institutions they deemed had recently made the **most innovative changes** in numerous areas which include academics, faculty, and campus life.

"I am delighted to see George Mason University recognized as a new model of excellence in American higher education," says President Angel Cabrera. "Our commitment to innovation and the unmatched diversity on our campus make us one of the most exciting universities for students and faculty."

This year the university will be celebrating its 40th anniversary as it continues to provide innumerable benefits to Fairfax County. We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful institution that continues to thrive.



Community Transportation Dialogue

Anyone who has spent time driving in Northern Virginia knows how awful traffic can be. Fairfax County faces many transportation challenges, including a current and significant transportation funding problem. In the next 10 years, funding needs for transportation is projected to be \$8.1 billion with only \$5.1 billion in anticipated revenues. Without an increase in funding from the state, there will be a total \$3 billion deficit over the next 10 years or a \$300 million annual deficit.

In an effort to better understand community needs and transportation concerns, Fairfax County staff will be engaging county residents and businesses in a dialogue about the county transportation needs, priorities and potential revenue options. The purpose of this dialogue is to gauge the community's interest in an increased role for the County in transportation

projects, and to determine which [potential revenue sources](#) might be acceptable.

Please attend one of the upcoming [community dialogue meetings](#) to voice your concerns and learn more about funding options. You can also share your recommendations online via our [Fairfax County Transportation Survey](#). See below for meeting schedule:

- **Wednesday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m.**

North County Governmental Center

12000 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston

Transit Access: Fairfax Connector routes RIBS 1, RIBS 3

- **Tuesday, Oct. 9 at 7 p.m.**

Chesterbrook Elementary School

1753 Kirby Road, McLean

- **Wednesday, Oct. 10 at 7 p.m.**

Thoreau Middle School

2505 Cedar Lane, Vienna

Transit Access: Metrobus 2T

- **Thursday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.**

Mount Vernon Governmental Center

2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria

Transit Access: Fairfax Connector routes 152, 161, 162

- **Thursday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.**

Kings Park Library

9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke

Transit Access: Metrobus 17A, 17B, 17G, 17H